

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claim 5 is allowable.

The specification has been amended as requested in the Office Action.

Claims 1-13 have been canceled in favor of new claims 14-16. Support for the subject matter of the new claims is provided in the original claims, Fig. 5, and the specification on page 12, lines 3, through page 13, line 13. The Applicants believe the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections applied to claims 2-4, 8, and 12 and the objections applied to claims 2, 8, and 12 are overcome by the above amendments.

Claims 6, 9, 10, and 13 were rejected, under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Raychaudhuri et al. (US 5,684,791). Claims 1, 7, and 11 were rejected, under 35 USC §102(e), as being anticipated by Welin (US 6,975,629). Claims 2, 3, 8, and 12 were rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Bushmitch et al. (US 6,275,471) in view of Abrol et al. (US 2005/0117521). Claim 4 was rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Bushmitch in view of Abrol and Muller et al. (US 6,483,804). To the extent these rejections may be deemed

applicable to new claims 14-16, the Applicants respectfully traverse.

A feature of the invention defined by claim 14 is a storing unit for storing packets that are received after their intended playback time, without discarding these packets. This feature provides the advantage of being able to read and play back packets that are received later than their intended playback time, thereby preventing inefficient use of bandwidth.

The Applicants respectfully submit that none of the applied references discloses or suggest a configuration that is equivalent to the claimed storing unit that stores packets received after the intended playback time, without discarding the packets, so that these packets may be played back at a later time.

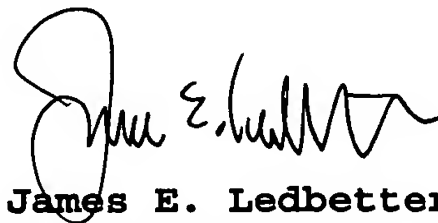
Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the applied references, whether considered alone or in combination, neither anticipate nor render obvious the subject matter defined by claim 14. Independent claim 16 similarly recites the above-mentioned feature distinguishing apparatus claim 14 from the applied references, although with respect to a method. Therefore, allowance of claims 14 and 16 is warranted.

Independent claim 15 recites features of original claims 1, 2, and 4 and allowable claim 5. Therefore, allowance of claim 15 is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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